

# The Morning Record

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## Not Funny, Mr. Bush

CIA Director George Bush got credit for a snappy come-back in a Boston Globe story this week. It seems Bush was at a private party at the home of his brother Jonathan. Frank Sinatra was one of the guests. Sinatra, with an evident desire to be helpful, offered his services to the CIA if that organization found that it could use him during the course of his travels.

Bush expressed doubts, but did offer to consider the entertainer if there were special problems in Melbourne.

Under the circumstances, it was an adroit way out of an uncomfortable situation. It was not enough to obscure the fact that Bush should not have put himself in that position to begin with.

Frank Sinatra has been the friend of Presidents and the intimate of important public figures. As an entertainer

he has earned a kind of immunity. But he is still a questionable character, a man who has close ties to unsavory characters and associations with the underworld of organized crime. He is still in the news for being under investigation on IRS and other matters.

George Bush's principal qualification for the critical and complicated job he has undertaken is his recognized integrity. His presence at a party where Sinatra was present, whether or not the CIA chief knew it in advance, cast a faint shadow over that integrity.

Bush should have walked out when he saw who was at the party. He should tell his brother to be more careful about his associates. From now on, he should scan his own social invitations and engagements more carefully. He should use better judgment.